

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1 DIMPTD
SUBJECT: EC INFORMAL FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING, MAY 20

REFS: A. COPENHAGEN 3369 (TURKEY);
B. COPENHAGEN 3364 (PRESS)
C. COPENHAGEN 3284 (STATE SETTER)

1. THE DANES WERE AS GOOD AS THEIR WORD. THIS MORNING I WAS CALLED IN BY MFA PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY EIGIL JORGENSEN TO GET WHAT APPEARS TO BE A COMPLETE READOUT ON THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS MAY 20 MEETING AT THE HESSELET HOTEL AT NYBORG, ON THE ISLAND OF FYN. I TOOK THE DCM AND THE POLCOUNS WITH ME. JORGENSEN HAD WITH HIM MFA DEPUTY POLITICAL DIRECTOR PETER DYVIG WHO SAT IN ON THE FOREIGN MINISTERS' DISCUSSIONS AT NYBORG AND WHO DID MOST OF THE TALKING.

2. BEFORE GOING FURTHER, I MUST EMPHASIZE HOW CONCERNED THE DANES ARE THAT THEIR BRIEFING NOT LEAK OUT. THEY BELIEVE THAT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN THE RELATIVELY BRIEF HISTORY OF THE US-EC DIALOGUE THAT DISCUSSIONS AT AN INFORMAL FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING HAVE BEEN FORMALLY CONVEYED TO THE UNITED STATES BY THE PRESIDENCY. SINCE EACH OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS HIMSELF DECIDES HOW MUCH OF WHAT TRANSPIRED SHOULD BE COMMUNICATED TO HIS OWN
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 COPENH 03409 231649Z

BUREAUCRACY, THE DANES WANT TO BE SURE THAT THE VARIOUS FOREIGN MINISTRIES DO NOT LEARN ABOUT WHAT WENT ON AT THE HESSELET FROM U.S. SOURCES.

3. I WILL SET OUT IN THIS MESSAGE THE GENERAL AGENDA, WHO WAS THERE AND BRIEFLY WHAT DISPOSITION WAS MADE OF THE ITEMS DISCUSSED. THIS WILL SERVE AS A SORT OF UMBRELLA FOR THE MORE DETAILED MESSAGE

WHICH WILL FOLLOW.

4. ALTHOUGH THE SUBSTANCE REMAINED THE SAME, THE ORIGINAL "DANISH AGENDA" HAD CHANGED SLIGHTLY FROM WHAT WAS REPORTED IN REFTEL B(COPEN

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HAGEN 3284). GOING INTO THE MEETING, THE DANES HAD THESE FIVE ITEMS ON THEIR LIST:

- ENLARGEMENT;
- EC RELATIONS WITH "THIRD COUNTRIES". UNDER THIS RUBRIC RELATIONS WITH TURKEY (AND CYPRUS); YUGOSLAVIA; AND, AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE FRG, ASEAN WERE TO BE DISCUSSED;
- LOME II AND HUMAN RIGHTS;
- RELATIONS WITH THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT;
- EC AND SOUTH AFRICA.

5. DUE TO THE ABSENCE OF BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER SIMONET, AND THE LATE ARRIVAL OF FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD THE EVENING OF SATURDAY MAY 20, (LUXEMBOURG'S THORN'S ABSENCE WAS EXPECTED), IT TURNED OUT THAT RELATIONS WITH THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND EC POLICY TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA WERE PUT ASIDE FOR FOREIGN MINISTERS' DISCUSSION AT THEIR JUNE 12 MEETING IN COPENHAGEN. IN ADDITION TO THE FIRST THREE ITEMS NOTED ABOVE, RECENT EVENTS CAUSED THE MINISTERS TO TAKE UP THE SENTENCING OF YURI ORLOV BY THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES AND THE FRENCH-BELGIAN RESCUE OPERATION IN ZAIRE.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 COPENH 03409 231649Z

6. DYVIG REMARKED THAT IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT THE MEETING DID NOT GO OVER TO THE SECOND DAY, A LOT OF GROUND WAS COVERED AND DISCUSSIONS WERE INTENSE WITH MINISTERS BREAKING ONLY FOR HALF AN HOUR DURING THE 12-HOUR SESSION BEFORE THEIR ADJOURNMENT AT MID-NIGHT ON SATURDAY.

7. I SHOULD NOTE THAT DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER K.B. ANDERSEN'S PRESS BRIEFING AT HESSELET AFTER THE MEETING (REF B) WAS A FIRST. ALTHOUGH, DYVIG SAID, FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL OBVIOUSLY TALK TO THE PRESS IN THEIR CAPITALS, A COMBINATION OF THE ANDERSEN BRIEFING AND THE PHYSICAL SETUP AT NYBORG KEPT THE PARTICIPANTS AWAY FROM THE PRESS DURING AND IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE MEETING. FUTURE INFORMAL FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETINGS WILL ALSO BE CONCLUDED WITH A PRESS BRIEFING BY THE HOST.

8. THE UMBRELLA:

A. ENLARGEMENT--MINISTERS DID NOT GET INTO THE PROFOUND DISCUSSION THE DANES HAD HOPED FOR ON WHAT ENLARGEMENT WOULD DO TO THE FABRIC OF THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL COOPERATION THEY HAVE ALREADY ACHIEVED. MINISTERS DID NOT FACE UP TO THE REAL DILEMMA OF A POLITICAL "YES" VERSUS THE ECONOMIC "BUT".

B. EC RELATIONS WITH:

--TURKEY AND CYPRUS (REPORTED IN REF A)-- JENKINS HAS INSTRUCTIONS FOR HIS MAY 25 MEETING WITH ECEVIT. FONMINS BELIEVE UN SEC GEN WALDHEIM IS AN INEFFECTUAL MEDIATOR.

--YUGOSLAVIA--FOREIGN MINISTERS ARE POSITIVE RE NEED TO BE ACCOMODATING TO YUGOSLAVIA'S DEMANDS BUT DID NOT DISCUSS HOW TO "JIGGLE" THEIR ONLY DEVICE TO DO SO, A PREFERENTIAL AGREEMENT WHICH THE YUGOSLAVAS DONT'T WANT TO ACCEPT.

--ASEAN--EC AND ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL MEET IN BRUSSELS NOV. 20.

C. LOME II AND HUMAN RIGHTS--THERE WILL BE A "SOFT" REFERENCE TO HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE NEW CONVENTION. THE COMMISSION WILL BE INSTRUCTED TO TONE DOWN ITS HARDER STANCE.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 COPENH 03409 231649Z

D. SOVIET SENTENCE OF ORLOV--NINE WILL ISSUE STATEMENT OF "REGRET". SOME MINISTERS WANT TOUGHER, MORE CONCRETE MEASURES TAKEN BY EC.

E. ZAIRE--GUIRINGAUD GAVE EXTENSIVE BRIEFING ON FRENCH RESCUE OPERATION, SAID IT WOULD LAST ONLY "A FEW DAYS" AND DENIED ANY PROBLEMS BETWEEN FRANCE AND BELGIUM.

9. BECAUSE OF EXTREME DANISH SENSITIVITIES NOTED EARLIER, I AM DIRECTING THIS AND THE SUBSEQUENT MESSAGE ON THIS MEETING ONLY TO THE DEPARTMENT. IT MAY WISH TO REPEAT ALL OR PART OF THESE MESSAGES TO OTHER ADDRESSEES IF IT BELIEVES THEY SHOULD BE INFORMED.

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